land laws/rules for regulating conversion of agricultural land to non agricultural uses.

New varieties of Maize

1938. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHAR-MA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists of Punjab Agricultural University have developed a new variety of maize 'Megha' whose yield is about 25 per cent more than the local variety;

(b) v/hether this new variety would be grown in Himachai Pradesh; and

(c) the area marked in other States for growing the new variety of maize?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NLTISH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This variety has also been found suitable for growing in Himachai Pradesh.

Cc) No such areas have been marked in other States.

Jobs *io* Job seekers registered with the Employment Exchanges

1939. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the period for which the name of the job seeker can be kept in the live register of the employment exchange after getting registered with it;

(b) what would be the fate of a can didate, so registered if he does not get a job for quite some time and crosses the age limits normally prescribed by Gov ernmental or semi-Governmental de partments for the jobs for which be is registered;

(c) whether Government/the Ex change concerned provide any help to such candidates in the above circum stances; and

(d) what is Government's attitude in such cases in the context of its declared policy of providing right to work to all abte bodied people?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND 'WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PAS-WAN): (a) According to the procedure prescribed by the Centra] Government the registra'ions of the job seekers are valid for period of 3 years after which these are required to be renewed.

(b) to (d) Employment Exchanges are only one amongst several agencies foj! placement of job seekf/s. While no special consideration is given by Employment Exchanges in sponsoring the candidates who become overage for Government jobs <heir names aire forwarded against suitable vacancies notified by private sector establishments. Besides, they are also motivated and assisted for taking up self employment venture.

Sugar prices

1940. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minster of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the continuing pressure on sugar prices in spite-of a record production of 105 lakh tonnes of sugar whir-h is 18 lakh tonnes higher than the last year's production durin, the current season;

CM what steps are beinj, taken to relieve the pressure on sugar prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MTNI^TTRv OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b) The sugar production during the current season is likely t-, be about 109 lakh tonnes. As a result of various measures taken bv the Government the bfjpes of suear in various parts of the country have remained fairly stable during the past few months.